

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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> Lawrence H. Davis, III, Chair Nathaniel H. Yohalem Tara B. White Board of Selectmen

Minutes of March 4, 2013

The Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM.

Board Members Present: Lawrence H. Davis, III Chairman

Nathaniel Yohalem

Tara White

Others Present:

Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant

Nicole Reid, Administrative Secretary

Review, discuss, and sign warrants, correspondence and minutes.

The minutes of February 11, 2013 were approved as presented. The minutes of February 25, 2013 were approved as amended.

Tax Title Property

The first item on the agenda for discussion was the review of Tax Title Property parcels with Treasurer Pat Mielke. She stated that we have the order from the Land Court giving the Hadsell Property on Cagney Road to the Town. The Town has the choice to decide if the property is worth keeping or offering it to the abutters. One of them is a small parcel and the abutter is interested in buying it. The other piece has a value this year of \$147,000.00. The fees incurred to date are \$25,000 in back taxes, interest and fees. The Land Trust has showed interest on the property. The Treasurer stated that it does not have to be decided on tonight, however the Town will need to decide what they would like to do with it. The parcel is 8.1 acres.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to offer the smaller parcel (map 409 Lot 8) to the abutter of the land for \$3,300.00 which covers the back taxes, fees and interest covers.

It was suggested by the Selectmen to hold the larger parcel at this time and inquire to the Land Trust about the property. Treasure Pat Mielke also stated that the Board needs to reaffirm her as treasurer as the custodian of the tax title property when it goes up for auction, so that she can move forward with the paperwork.

A motion was made, seconded, and so voted to appoint Pat Mielke to custodian of the tax title property.

The next item of discussion was the comparison of the Clayton Mill River Bridge estimates. Highway superintendent, Peter Marks stated that costs being reviewed from Foresight Land Services are more realistic; however the total still seems high. Ultimately he feels these recent estimates from Foresight Land Services are a closer estimate to what the costs should be. He also stated that costs can potentially come in lower once the items go out to bid.

The next item on the agenda is discussion of the Transfer Station Fees and the costs of the trash compacter. Selectman Yohalem inquired about the budget amount was last year. Selectman White stated \$15,000.00 for repairs. "So on top of \$31,000.00 for a compactor, we have to have repairs?" Selectmen White stated \$6,500.00 for concrete and electrical. It was also assumed we would get the same type of agreement; being able to pay it down over several years and then a buyout; a three year lease with an option to buy. Michael Skorput will confirm this week. Chairman Davis stated we also have to look at the fees for this year. After brief discussion, it was determined that raising the Transfer Station fees to \$100.00 this year was acceptable with a \$10.00 late fee to be paid after August 15, 2013.

A motion was made, seconded, and so voted to raise the cost of the Transfer Station fees to \$100.00 with a \$10.00 late fee after August 15, 2013.

Selectman White inquired what should be done about the trash compacter; "should it be put on the warrant"? Chairman Davis suggested finding out if we still have the lease for purchase. Michael Skorput stated that the lease for purchase option would most likely have a higher interest rate.

The following budget items were up for the Selectmen's approval.

Account	FY13	FY14	Difference
Assessors Computer Services	\$5,334.00	\$4,235.00	1,099.00
Assessors Consultant	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	_
Household Hazardous Waste	\$1,350.00	\$1,100.00	(\$250.00)
Berkshire Regional Planning		\$1037.00	

A motion was made, seconded, and so voted to approve the budgets listed above.

There was also a brief discussion to change the time of the Selectmen's meeting next week as Selectmen Yohalem is unable to attend. Chairman Davis will look at his schedule and follow up with Michael or Nicole.

The Board announced and congratulated David Hastings as the new Superintendent of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District. The Board requested a letter be sent the following day.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded and so voted to adjourn at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Reid

Nicolo Reid

Administrative Secretary